Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph **[0023]** with the following amended paragraph:

[0023] Extrusion apparatus **10** includes a main die body **20**, a bearing plate **30**, a rotary die body **40**, ~~a die head~~an extrusion die **50**, and a protective cup guard **51**.

Please replace paragraph **[0026]** with the following amended paragraph:

[0026] **FIG. 3** is a perspective view of an example bearing plate **30**. ~~As illustrated, bearing plate 30 includes a further mounting screws 31 that is axially aligned with the mounting screws 22 in main die body 20 (as best viewed in FIG. 1).~~ A plurality of mounting holes **33** may be provided at suitable locations to ~~secure the bearing plate 30 onto the main die body 20.~~be axially aligned with corresponding mounting holes formed in the main die body **20**. Example bearing plate **30** has an orifice **24d** which forms a section of secondary supply channel **24**.

Please replace paragraph **[0029]** with the following amended paragraph:

[0029] Extrusion die **50** may be provided with a mounting hole **53** (**FIG. 5**) to mount extrusion die **50** onto rotary die body **40** with a fastener, such as a screw (not shown). Extrusion die **50** includes a further extrusion passage **52**.

Please replace paragraph **[0030]** with the following amended paragraph:

[0030] The central axes of extrusion passage **42** (**FIG. 1**); extrusion passage **22** in main die body **20**; extrusion passage **32** in the bearing plate **30**; and extrusion passage **52** in extrusion die **50**, are axially aligned and combine to form an extrusion channel **28**. Extrusion channel **28** provides a passage through extrusion apparatus **10** for the first foam material, which is extruded at die egress **54** and forms the main body of an extruded foam article. In an embodiment, each extrusion passage **22, 32, 42, 52** may have generally inwardly tapering walls leading towards the die egress **54**.

Please replace paragraph **[0035]** with the following amended paragraph:

[0035] Extrusion die **50** is more particularly illustrated in **FIG. 5**. As shown, extrusion die **50** is generally disc shaped, and exemplified extrusion passage **52** is generally funnel-shaped: the wall of the extrusion passage **52** tapers as the passage **52** extends from the ingress of the passage to egress **54** of extrusion die **50**. As will become apparent, extrusion passage **52** of extrusion die **50** acts as an applicator, to apply a coating to the outer surface of the extruded article **12** (**FIG. 6**) as it is being extruded.

Please replace paragraph **[0042]** with the following amended paragraph:

[0042] As a result, the region of application of each feed channel **46** rotates about the central axis of passages **52**, and extrusion channel **28**. This relative rotation causes the coating material to come into contact with the surface of the first foam material within extrusion channel **28**, at varying angular locations about the axis of extrusion channel **28**, proximate the region of application as the first foam material moves along the axis of the extrusion channel **28**. As applied, the coating from each feed channel **46** colors less than the entire outer perimeter of the main body **14** in passage **52**. As a result, the coating material takes the form of helical bands **18**, occupying a region representing a fraction of a perimeter of the outer surface **16** of the extruded article **12**, as illustrated in **FIG 7A**. Each feed channel **46** forms a single helical band **18** on the extruded article [[**14**]]**12**. The number of bands **18** and the appearance of the extruded article **12** may thus be varied by varying the number and spacing of the feed channels **46** and the speed of rotation of the rotary die body **40.**

Please replace paragraph **[0043]** with the following amended paragraph:

[0043] It will be appreciated that, in an embodiment, if the rotary die body **40** is not rotating, then straight bands will be formed on the extrude article [[**14**]]**12**.

Please replace paragraph **[0044]** with the following amended paragraph:

[0044] The combination of the first foam material and coating material exits extrusion apparatus **10** at egress **54** of extrusion die **50**. As this combination exits, it expands uniformly due to the active foaming agent mixed in the first foam material. The degree of expansion may be controlled by, for example, selection of the foaming agent, control of the amount of foaming agent used, the temperature of the combination, and the relative drop in pressure once the combination exits egress **54**. Protective cup guard **51** prevents the extruded, expanding article **12** from accidentally contacting rollers **56**. Conveniently, the coating material may be formed from material that has suitable expansion characteristics, so that the coating material expands at the same rate as the first foam material. This retains the helical band appearance on the outer surface **16** of the main foam body **14** as it expands substantially. Moreover, the coating material remains on or near the surface of the main foam body **14**. Typically, the first foam material may expand in volume by a factor of 10 to 50 with the coating material expanding correspondingly on the surface of the first foam material. As the combination cools, it hardens in its extruded form. Conveniently, if the coating material is of the same material as the first foam material, the texture of the outer surface **16** of the ~~formed~~ extruded article [[**14**]]**12** is generally uniform. As well, as the coating material is only applied to the outer surface **16**, the quantity of coating material required is only a small fraction of the quantity of first foam material used to form the ~~article~~main foam body **14**.